AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method for manufacturing wood elements for musical instruments, comprising:

a dyeing step in which a plurality of wooden plate units are dyed;

a laminating step in which a resin is coated onto or is impregnated into the plurality of dyed wooden plate units, fiber directions of the dyed wooden plate units are uniformly aligned, and the dyed wooden plate units are stacked and are subjected to thermal pressing so as to be bonded together and produce laminated bodies,

the thermal pressing being conducted by controlling a pressure so that a density of the laminated bodies is in a range from 0.8 to 1.4 g/cm^3 and a thickness of the laminated bodies is less than 20mm; and

a bonding step in which at least two of the laminated bodies are bonded together to produce the wood element having a thickness of 20 mm or more.

2. (Previously Presented) The method for manufacturing wood elements for musical instruments according to claim 1, wherein a portion of the dyed wooden plate units is replaced with paper.

3. (Original) Wood elements for musical instruments obtained using the method for manufacturing wood elements for musical instruments according to claim 1.

4. (Original) A musical instrument that uses the wood elements for musical instruments according to claim 3.

5. (Previously Presented) A method for manufacturing wood elements for musical instruments, comprising:

a first laminating step in which a resin is coated onto or is impregnated into a plurality of dyed wooden plate units, fiber directions of the dyed wood plate units are uniformly aligned, and

the dyed wooden plate units are stacked and are subjected to thermal pressing so as to be bonded together and produce a first laminated body; and

a second laminating step in which the first laminated body thus obtained is sliced along the fiber direction to produce laminated plate units, a resin is coated onto or is impregnated into the laminated plate units thus obtained, fiber directions of the laminated plate units are uniformly aligned, and the laminated plate units are stacked and are subjected to thermal pressing so as to be bonded together and produce a second laminated bodies,

the thermal pressing in the second laminating step being conducted by controlling a pressure so that a density of the second laminated bodies is in a range from 0.8 to 1.4 g/cm^3 and a thickness of the second laminated bodies is less than 20mm; and

a bonding step in which at least two of the second laminated bodies are bonded together to produce the wood element having a thickness of 20mm or more.

6. (Previously Presented) The method for manufacturing wood elements for musical instruments according to claim 5, wherein the thermal pressing in the first laminating step is conducted by controlling a pressure so that a density of the first laminated body is in a range from 0.4 to 0.6 g/cm^3, in the first laminating step.

7. (Previously Presented) The method for manufacturing wood elements for musical instruments according to claim 5, wherein a portion of the dyed wooden plate units is replaced with paper.

8. (Original) Wood elements for musical instruments obtained using the method for manufacturing wood elements for musical instruments according to claim 5.

9. (Original) A musical instrument that uses the wood elements for musical instruments according to claim 8.

10. (Previously Presented) Wood elements for musical instruments, comprising at least two laminated, bodies bonded together to have a thickness of 20mm or more, each of the laminated bodies including laminated, dyed wooden plate units whose fiber directions are uniformly aligned, and having a thickness of 20 mm or less, and a density of 0.8 to 1.4 g/cm^3.

11. (Original) A musical instrument that uses the wood elements for musical instruments according to claim 10.

12. (Previously Presented) A method for manufacturing wood elements for musical instruments, comprising:

providing a plurality of wooden plate units;

dyeing the plurality of wooden plate units to produce a plurality of dyed wooden plate units;

applying a resin to the plurality of dyed wooden plate units;

stacking the dyed wooden plate units with fiber directions of the wooden plate units aligned;

thermal pressing the dyed wooden plates units to create a laminated, bodies, wherein the thermal pressing is controlled to produce the laminated bodies with a density in a range from 0.8 to 1.4 g/cm^3 and a thickness less than 20mm; and

bonding at least two of the laminated bodies together to produce the wood element having a thickness of 20 mm or more.

13. (Previously Presented) The method for manufacturing wood elements for musical instruments according to claim 12, wherein the thermal pressing comprises applying a pressure between 65 and 300 kg/cm^2.